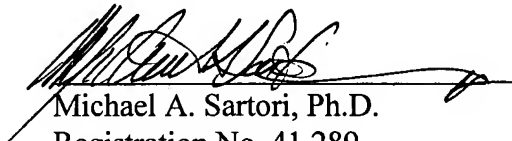


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is made to eliminate multiple claim dependency and to recite various aspects of the invention. Examination on the merits of the application is requested. A marked up version showing the changes made to the claims is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF CLAIMS

2. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 1, wherein other bulking sources are added to the resin to top up the glass level [the glass granules comprise between 40% and 90% w/w of the composite matrix].

3. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 1 [either of claims 1 or 2], wherein the level of glass granules is higher than 60% w/w of the composite matrix [other bulking sources are added to the resin to top up the glass level].

4. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein the [level of] glass granules are derived from waste glass [is higher than 60% w/w of the composite matrix].

5. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein the glass granules in the matrix have a grain size substantially between 0.0mm and 20.0mm [are derived from waste glass].

6. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein at least 50% w/w of the glass composite matrix comprises glass granules of grain size 0mm-6mm [the glass granules in the matrix have a grain size substantially between 0.0mm and 20.0mm].

7. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein at least [50%] 10% w/w of the glass composite matrix comprises glass granules of grain size 0mm-[6mm] 4mm.

8. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein[,] at least 10% w/w of the glass composite matrix comprises glass granules of grain size [0mm-4mm] 4mm-6mm.

9. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein granules between 6-10mm are present at a level less than 50% w/w [at least 10% w/w of the glass composite matrix comprises glass granules of grain size, 4mm-6mm].

10. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein the binder resin comprises between 5% w/w and 20% w/w of the composite matrix [granules between 6-10mm are present at a level less than 50% w/w].

11. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein a coupling agent is present in the composite, to couple the glass and resin components together during setting of the composite [the matrix is ground after setting to provide a finish].

12. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein a reactive diluent is added to suit viscosity requirements [the binder resin comprises between 5% w/w and 20% w/w of the composite matrix].

13. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 12 [any preceding claim], wherein the reactive diluents comprise mono-functional or di-functional aliphatic or cycloaliphatic glycidyl ethers or esters [resin is polymeric and requires a curing agent or initiator to set].

14. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 12 [any preceding claim], wherein the diluent is present at a level of 5-30% of the pre-cured resin [a coupling agent is present in the composite, to couple the glass and resin components together

during setting of the composite].

15. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 11 [14], wherein the coupling agent is present in the pre-cured resin at a level of 0.1-4.0% w/w [a silane coupling agent].

16. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 11 [either of claims 14 or 15], wherein the ratio of glass granules to binder resin and coupling agent is in the range of 6:1 to 3:1 [coupling agent is selected from a suitable silane, titanate ester or zirco-aluminate].

17. (Amended) [A solid glass composite matrix according to any preceding claim, wherein the resin is selected from any suitable binder resin including epoxy resins, polyurethane binders, unsaturated polyester binders and poly C₁-C₂ alkyl methacrylate binders] A method of producing a glass composite comprising the steps of:

contacting an aggregate of glass granules of average grain size less than 10mm with a binder resin,

mixing the granules into the un-set resin, and

allowing the resin to set so that the resin sets the granules into a solid composite matrix.

18. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein the glass granules for screening applications have lead or barium or combined lead/barium levels of at least 3% by weight [a reactive diluent is added to suit viscosity requirements].

19. (Amended) A solid glass composite matrix according to claim 18, wherein the lead or barium levels or combined lead/barium levels for such applications are in the range 10-70% by weight in the glass granules [reactive diluents comprise mono-functional or di-functional aliphatic or cycloaliphatic glycidyl ethers or esters].